



# KCJIS *NEWSLETTER*

Volume 4: Issue 3; August, 2002

## THE KANSAS AMBER PLAN

*By Attorney General Carla J. Stovall*

In late July, California authorities issued an AMBER Alert to inform area broadcasters about an abduction which had recently taken place. Radio and television stations immediately started reporting about the two teenage girls who had been kidnapped at gunpoint and a description of the suspect vehicle. Numerous sightings of the vehicle began pouring in to law enforcement officials from citizens who heard the AMBER Alert, and within 12 hours of the abduction the suspect, a 37-year-old convicted rapist, was spotted and taken down by police. The girls, who the local sheriff believed were just minutes away from being killed, were instead rescued safely.

This event which played itself out in California is one more success story for the AMBER Plan, a program created in 1996 in memory of 9-year-old Amber Hagerman who was abducted and murdered in Arlington, Texas. The AMBER Plan, which stands for America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response, is a voluntary effort between law enforcement and broadcasters to activate a missing child alert in the most serious abduction cases. It is currently being implemented in about 40 locations, including three states, and has been credited with saving the lives of at least 18 children.

In March 2002, I formed an AMBER Plan task force and for the past five months I have been working with Kansas law enforcement officers (with much assistance from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation and the Kansas High-

way Patrol), broadcasters, and emergency response personnel to look at how the AMBER Plan can be implemented statewide. The task force is currently working on not only the technical aspects of activating an AMBER Alert throughout the state, but also on AMBER Plan procedures, a website, brochures, training videos and a public awareness campaign. Our goal is to be able to announce that Kansas has a statewide AMBER Plan by October 2002.

The first couple of hours in a kidnapping are the most critical, and decisions made in that time could mean the life or death of the victim. We hope we never have to use the Kansas AMBER Plan, but the cooperation of law enforcement and broadcasters will be the key to achieving a swift and successful end to an abduction should one ever occur.

## KANSAS RANKED #1

*By Gordon Lansford, Director, KCJIS*

Each year the Center for Digital Government and The Progress & Freedom Foundation survey the 50 states to reveal who is getting the most out of technology. The results of the 2002 survey were recently released and I am pleased to report to you that Kansas has been ranked #1 in the areas of Law Enforcement and Courts. Kansas tied for first place along with Colorado, long recognized for its outstanding criminal justice system, and Wisconsin.

The Kansas Criminal Justice Information System (KCJIS) is a complex and sophisticated system

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## **Kansas:**

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that only works when everyone works together. Success such as this also requires good leadership. Kansas is recognized nationally for its governance model, lead by the Kansas Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (KCJCC). According to KBI Director Larry Welch, one of the seven members of the coordinating council, when KCJIS was conceived in the early to mid-1990's, Kansas was ranked in the bottom ten states in the United States. It has taken a lot of very good people working very hard to produce these fine results and each of you is to be congratulated for your effort and support.

The Center for Digital Government conducted the 2002 Digital State Survey under trying circumstances. Law enforcement and the courts now shoulder ever-expanding responsibilities with the recent focus on homeland security. Coordination and computer networks are the lifeblood of a broader yet more focused justice enterprise. KCJIS is a statewide network that currently supports about 7000 authorized users ranging from the smallest law enforcement agency and court, to the largest. The current rollout of the new FullCourt statewide court system to all of the district courts will further enhance our criminal justice capabilities.

The key to success is cooperation and expanded usage. If you are a KCJIS user, thank you! If you are not, we would like for you to become an authorized user. *Information can't do any good if it's not in the right place at the right time.*

If you have ideas about how KCJIS could be improved please email them to Gordon Lansford at [gordon.lansford@state.ks.us](mailto:gordon.lansford@state.ks.us). My personal congratulations to everyone in Kansas Law Enforcement and the Kansas Courts for being recognized as #1 in the United States! Network Disconnects.

## **WORK IS CONTINUING ON THE KCJIS NETWORK DISCONNECTS**

*By Chuck Sexson  
Assistant Director  
Kansas Bureau of Investigation*

During recent weeks a number of steps have been taken to address the random disconnects on the KCJIS Network. While the frequency of reported disconnects has diminished some, the problem still exists and is particularly troublesome for dispatch operations and mobile data terminals. The single greatest challenge is isolating incidents so the problem can be properly diagnosed. It is extremely important that end users and dispatch centers report all random disconnects to the KCJIS Help Desk immediately upon occurrence. Disconnect reports provide the KBI with useful information about frequency, location and conditions that existed at the time of disconnect. Random disconnects are any occurrence that can't be attributed to planned maintenance or repairs on the system. Users will be notified in advance of work that could cause disconnects or temporary loss of service.

Random disconnects can be reported by sending an email to [helpdesk@kbi.state.ks.us](mailto:helpdesk@kbi.state.ks.us), or by calling the KCJIS Help Desk at 785-368-6383. Be sure to provide time, date and the type of work that was being performed at the time of disconnect. It would also be helpful to report any adverse conditions that may have existed at the time, especially local network problems or repairs.

In the next few weeks a group of KCJIS, DISC and local information technicians will be teaming to do an in depth analysis of the KCJIS system and its various interfaces around the state. The first phase of the project will concentrate on the KCJIS/ALERT interface. The results of that effort may assist in the resolution of disconnect issues throughout the system.

The KCJIS Help Desk will keep the users informed on the progress of this initiative by putting out occasion updates on the network.

## **STATUTE FILE: STANDARDIZED CRIMINAL CITATIONS**

*By Dave Sim,  
Special Agent In Charge*

How can Kansas criminal justice agencies electronically exchange information about a crime?

First and foremost, both agencies must agree on how the details of the crime are described. For example, if a Police Department charges a subject with Failure to Appear and sends the arrest and booking data to the County Attorney, both offices must agree that the offense is cited as K.S.A. 21-3813 and is a Class B nonperson misdemeanor. It would cause confusion if the PD considered the offense a Class A misdemeanor.

See *Standardized Citations*, page 3

### **Standard Citations:**

*Continued from page 2*

The KCJIS Standards and Technology Committee recognized a need for a standard description of crimes to support electronic data exchange. The Committee established a Statute File Subcommittee to accomplish two goals:

- Create a list of all criminal offenses based on Kansas statutes (K.S.A.). This will be the KCJIS Statute File, or, as some software vendors refer to it, a Law Table.
- Determine the fields and definitions for the construction of the Statute File. This goal will establish what information will be contained in the file and how will the data be presented.

The Statute File Subcommittee consists of representatives from local and state KCJIS agencies. Progress to date includes a general agreement on the structure of the file and the method by which criminal statutes are added and used. The committee should be able to release a complete, current version of the Statute File in September.

## **TRAINING OPPORTUNITY**

*By Mary Ann Howerton*

*Manager*

*KBI Crime Data Information Center*

The KBI will be hosting training workshops on **Hate Crime Identification and Recognition** plus **Investigative Uses of NCIC** during the last week of August. Trainers from the FBI's CJIS Education Training Services Unit will be conducting the workshops. Attendees may select to attend any of the workshops. Pre-registration before August 23rd is requested by calling Kathleen Bledsoe at 785/

296-8278 or email  
[Kathleen.Bledsoe@kbi.state.ks.us](mailto:Kathleen.Bledsoe@kbi.state.ks.us).

The Hate Crime Identification and Recognition workshops will be conducted from 8 A.M. to noon both days of the workshops. The Investigative Uses of NCIC workshops will be conducted from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M.. each day.

### **Dates and sites are:**

**August 27, 2002** - Hughes Metro Complex,  
5015 E 29<sup>th</sup> St (29<sup>th</sup> and Oliver), Wichita

**August 29, 2002** - Nichols Hall-Apollo  
Room, University of Kansas, Lawrence

(Parking is available at the Lied Center, corner of Irving Hill Road and Crestline Drive, immediately north of Nichols Hall.)

### **Workshop descriptions:**

#### ***Hate Crime Identification and Recognition***

**Course Objective** - To assist law enforcement and support personnel in the identification, recognition, and reporting of hate crimes.

**Description** - This program provides information on the issues relating to hate crimes (otherwise known as "bias-based incidents") including: the Hate Crime Statistics Act, National Hate Crime Reporting Program, and Identification and Recognition of Hate Crimes by utilizing the 14 objective elements that a crime was motivated by bias. Law enforcement agencies in Kansas report hate crime through the Kansas Incident Based Reporting System (KIBRS).

**Who should attend** - This course is designed for patrol officers, detectives, administrative and supervisory personnel, clerical personnel, and others with a need for greater understanding of Hate Crime.

### **Investigative Uses of NCIC:**

**Course Objective** - To assist law enforcement and support personnel in the utilization of the NCIC for investigative purposes.

**Description** - This program provides information on the FBI's National Crime Information Center to personnel whose primary function is investigatory. An overview of the system, including file descriptions, system access and security, and operating procedures high-

lights the program. Emphasis is placed on features of the off-line Search, with case histories involving high-profile cases such as the Oklahoma City bombing of 1995. "Packing the Record" is another point of emphasis, with additional case history presentations. Additional material is presented on the Delayed Inquiry program, and other investigative aspects of the system.

**Who should attend** – This course is designed for patrol officers, detectives, investigators and their supervisors. It is not designed for telecommunications personnel who are required to be certified as NCIC operators through their state system.

*See FBI Training, page 4*

### **FBI Training:**

*Continued from page 3*

If you have any questions please free to contact Mary Ann Howerton at 785/296-8277 or email MaryAnn.Howerton@kbi.state.ks.us.

## **KASPER PUBLIC SEARCH PAGE IS A HIT!**

*By Carlos Usera  
Department of Corrections*

As part of Kansas Adult Supervised Population Electronic Repository (KASPER) objectives to provide current information on adult offenders supervised by the state, a web search page is now available to the public to retrieve information on offenders currently incarcerated or on parole. The search page is located at <http://www.dc.state.ks.us/kasper/search.asp> and provides information on offenders under the Kansas Department of Corrections supervision.

The KASPER search page provides a variety of information for public use. Since the data is refreshed once a day, the public is advised that information may change and one should not rely on the results for investigative purposes or liability purposes. In the four months period following March 17, the search page responded to over 250,000 hits or requests for information.

***Information provided by the public KASPER search tool include:***

Offender's name and aliases  
Date of Birth  
Supervision Status  
Demographics (height, weight, hair and eye color)  
Convictions (normally felony)  
Photograph.

*The availability of this information using the Internet has assisted the Department of Corrections in meeting its goals to provide the state with accurate, complete and timely information. Any person can access the site and immediately retrieve offender data and photographs at any time or any location using a computer that has Internet access.*

The success of this search and retrieve function will be extended to other agencies. Future public KASPER search pages will be used to display information concerning offenders under community corrections supervision, on probation, and in jails. The intent is to make available to the community, families and victims information concerning adult supervised offenders.

## **KANSAS WARRANT VIEW/ VALIDATION PROCESS**

*By Vicky Harris  
Information Resource Specialist  
KBI Communications Unit*

Agencies may now view and/or validate their Kansas warrants (not NCIC warrants) via the web portal. If your agency has the right to use another agency's ORI, you will also be permitted to view/validate the other agency's warrants through this web page. Log on to <http://www.ksmart.state.ks.us>. You will need a digital certificate and a token to access this web site. After you have logged on, click on the "Web Views/Validation" box on the menu along the left side of the screen. This will pull up another page titled "Hot Files Query Submission Form". Detailed instructions regarding the use of this web page may be found on the KCJIS web site, under "KS Operating Manuals", then click on "Kansas Warrant File Web View & Validations Instructions".

If you have experienced any problems with validating your warrants through the web page,

you may need to delete your temporary internet files before trying again. You can delete these files by the following steps:

- Open Internet Explorer
- From the tool bar, click on "Tools"
- Click on "Internet Options"
- Approximately midway on the "General" tab, there is a section titled "Temporary Internet Files". Click on the box titled "Delete Files".
- Another box will appear. Click OK.
- When the temporary files have been deleted, you should be returned to the "General" tab. Click OK again.

If you still experience any problems validating your Kansas warrants after you have

*See Warrant Validation, page 5*

### **Warrant Validation:**

*Continued from page 4*

completed this task, please notify the KBI Help Desk at 785-296-8245. The Help Desk will provide you with a ticket number and escalate the tickets for resolution.

You may call me at 785-296-8261 or my e-mail address is: vickyharris@kbi.state.ks.us

## **KBI EMPLOYEES SERVING ON NATIONAL JUSTICE INFORMATION POLICY AND ADVISORY BOARDS**

On June 26, 2002 KBI Information Resource Specialist Vicky Harris was re-elected to chair Region G of the National Law Enforcement Telecommunication System (NLETS). As chairman, Vicky represents seven states on the NLETS Board of Directors and participates in the adoption of national policies regulating the national telecommunications system. Region G represents federal, state and local criminal justice agencies in Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado. Serving as vice-chairman for many years, this will be her second term as chairman.

On July 22, 2002 Special Agent In Charge

Dave Sim was selected to serve on the Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council. The compact, which provides for the exchange of criminal history records with other states for non-criminal justice purposes, was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Clinton in 1998. Kansas ratified the compact in 2000 when Governor Bill Graves signed Senate Bill 209 into law. Sixteen states have ratified the compact. The council, comprised of 15 members, nine of whom are selected from among the member states, governs the compact under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Justice. The Federal Bureau of Investigation provides the administrative staff for the council. Appointed by KBI Director Larry Welch, Dave has been the Kansas compact representative since 2000.

Since 1999 KBI Systems Security Consultant Norma Jean Schaefer has served on the CJIS Security and Access Subcommittee of the FBI CJIS

Advisory Policy Board. Norma Jean was instrumental in the development of the Kansas Criminal Justice Information Security Plan and has been an active participant in the development of national criminal justice standards for the use of virtual private network technology. She has presented at national and international information technology meetings and consults regularly with federal, state and local criminal justice agencies on matters relating to network security.

On July 20, 2002 KBI Assistant Director Chuck Sexson was elected to the Board of Directors of SEARCH, the National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics. Appointed by Governor Bill Graves, Chuck has served as the Kansas representative to SEARCH since 1995. He was appointed to the National Task Force on Court Automation and Integration in 1999, serves on the SEARCH Planning Committee, and is starting his second year as vice chairman of the Systems and Technology Policy Advisory Committee. A nonprofit public benefit corporation, SEARCH has represented state and local criminal justice interests in Congress and at the U.S. Department of Justice since 1968.

Congratulations to these and all Kansas criminal justice professionals who rep-

*See Wireless Encryption, page*

resent our state on local, state and national policy boards.

## WIRELESS ENCRYPTION UPDATE

*Bob Eckhardt  
KCJIS Information Security Officer  
Kansas Highway Patrol*

Just to remind everyone that one of the FBI's encryption deadlines will soon be approaching. One deadline is by September 30, 2002, all CJIS data passing through a public network segment must be encrypted employing at least a 128-bit key. This type of encryption has been employed on our Kansas Criminal Justice Information System from day one, so any one agency accessing KCJIS information over a wired connection will be in compliance with this policy.

The second deadline is that all new wireless upgrades contracted after September 30, 2002,

must also be encrypted employing at least a 128-bit key. Since wireless solutions are implemented at the local level, it is up to the local agencies to insure compliance with this policy. What this means to the local agency is if you are planning to do a contract with a vendor to install wireless communication (not just mobile data, but

any wireless), if that contract is going to be

### ***Wireless Encryption:***

*Continued from page 5*

executed after 9/30/2002, then that installation must provide for 128-bit encryption over all wireless links as it is installed. For any agencies installing wireless communication after 9/30/2002 without a contract with a vendor, that installation must also provide for 128-bit encryption of all wireless links.

If your agency plans to provide wireless communication after these dates from a vendor that cannot support 128-bit encryption, under certain circumstances, the FBI has allowed for the ability to partition them for a one-year extension, with the possibility of renewal until 9/30/2005.

If your agency can document a good business case why you should be allowed to con-

tract with a vendor who cannot meet the FBI's encryption mandate, you will need to provide documentation of this to the KHP CJIS Unit to the attention of the Information Security Officer. This documentation should answer the following questions:

1. Why you feel this particular vendor must be the one to implement your wireless solution.
2. What kind of encryption will be implemented at this time.
3. What will be your plan to get the encryption upgraded to the FBI standard.
4. By what date will you plan to be using the FBI encryption standard exclusively.

We will review your request, and if we concur with your business case, the Control Terminal Officer will forward it to the FBI with our endorsement. Depending on the merit of your request, the FBI may or may not approve an extension. Therefore, it is imperative that before you sign any contracts for wireless technology after 9/30/2002, or implement any wireless technology without a contract after

9/30/2002, you need to be sure the vendor can adhere to the FBI's standard for encryption, or you have the FBI's approval for an extension. I do not have any idea how long it will take for the FBI to respond to a specific request for extension, so if you need to execute the contract before the approval can be obtained, be sure to make the wireless portion of the contract contingent upon the FBI giving their approval for extension. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 785-296-5953 or E-mail: [Beckhard@leo.gov](mailto:Beckhard@leo.gov)

## III STATUS

*By Dave Sim,  
Special Agent In Charge*

Kansas is quickly moving to full participation in the national "Interstate Identification Index" (III) program. The significance of this program is that Kansas will become responsible for responding to requests for release

of Kansas criminal histories rather than relying on the FBI to provide that information on behalf of the state. The data available from the Kansas central repository of criminal history records will be more detailed and complete than the summary data maintained by the FBI. Receiving agencies will benefit from the enhanced data.

When III participation begins, the Kansas central repository will be electronically connected to the FBI's national database of criminal records. Using a "day forward" approach, the FBI will no longer provide Kansas records to requesting agencies but will begin referring such requests to the Kansas Central Repository at the KBI. Kansas will retain ownership of newly created Kansas criminal histories and will transmit them to requesting agencies from other states and from the federal government.

The FBI is currently working with the KBI to establish the connection, with an implementation tentatively set for November of this year.

## FAQ'S

**Q. Where has this column been for the past few issues?**

A. Gone. But it's back now.

**Q. Our County Attorney frequently researches the criminal histories of defendants and witnesses. Occasionally the case drags on for months and there is the need to "refresh" someone's record check. How many times can we run a III on a subject in a given case?**

*See FAQ'S, page 7*

## FAQ'S:

*Continued from page 6*

A. As often as the prosecuting attorney deems necessary. There is no limitation to the number of III record checks that can be conducted, only a requirement that the checks be done to support the administration of criminal justice.

**Q. When does the court need to be con-**

**cerned with obtaining subject fingerprints for submission to the Central Repository at the KBI?**

A. When the subject has not been booked in the traditional sequence of arrest and disposition. The court is responsible for ensuring fingerprints are taken and submitted before the criminal case is completed. Generally the subject will not have been booked/printed when the case is summoned. Whenever the court establishes that the subject didn't have fingerprints taken for the case before the court, the subject should be printed and the prints submitted to the KBI.

**Q. Does Senate Bill 432 still require fingerprint-based record checks from the KBI and the FBI? Is that still the proper citation when submitting fingerprint cards?**

A. No. That law sunset last year. School districts are no longer required to submit national record checks for teachers and other school employees. However, such national checks can still be conducted, under the provisions of the National Child Protection Act as modified by the Volunteers for Children Act (NCPA/VCA). Since the NCPA/VCA is voluntary, school districts can choose which employees or volunteers are to be checked and which are *not*.

**Q. On the same subject, our Sheriff's Office has been asked to fingerprint students from our local college who are applying for teaching certificates. Is this because of the Senate Bill 432 requirements?**

A. No, since the Senate Bill sunset, the Kansas Department of Health and Education (KDHE) has implemented a requirement for fingerprint-based record checks of new teachers. These checks are conducted in the Kansas Central Repository for criminal history records and also at the national level under the provisions of the NCPA/VCA.

**Q. Our county has enacted a County Resolution that requires the Police Department to conduct a background check for persons applying for permits to sell cereal malt beverages. What criminal history records may be checked,**

**and under what purpose?**

A. The Kansas criminal history record database can be accessed, using the purpose for "non-criminal justice employment/certification." That is equivalent to the NCIC purpose code "E" (PUR/E).

**Q. Can we also run a III record check for that CMB permit background?**

A. No. Since the record check is for non-criminal justice purposes, it would require enabling state legislation (not simply a county resolution) in order for national access to be permitted.

**Q. Our court submits copies of Journal Entries for expungement of criminal records to both the KBI and the FBI. Is that necessary?**

A. By Kansas statute, the KBI is responsible for receiving expungement orders, adding the information to the Central Repository and forwarding the expungement to the FBI for posting to the national III database. The FBI will only act on Journal Entries sent by the KBI, so courts should not send copies to the FBI, but only to the KBI.

**Q. Can our County Attorney's Office conduct a III check on members of a household pending consideration for a Child-in-Need-of-Care (CINC) placement?**

A. A Kansas record check would be permissible under the provisions of K.A.R. 10-12-2, but not a national check through the III database.

**Q. Could that check also include the Kansas juvenile offender records?**

A. Yes. Access to the Kansas juvenile offender database (held at the Central Repository at the KBI) is permitted for CINC placement purposes. The authority is K.S.A. 38-1618(e).

**Q. Who invented the scissors?**

A. Leonardo Da Vinci.

## **KIBRS SUPPORT IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS**

*By Mary Ann Howerton  
Manager*

*KBI Crime Data Information Center*

Since Business Software and Equipment (BSE) went out of business in October 2001 there were concerns about the future of the Law Enforcement Case Management and Gateway software designed by BSE.

Both the Law Enforcement Case Management software now known as KIBRSLE and the KIBRS Gateway are functioning and routinely being updated to meet the needs of the users and the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

This has been accomplished through the support of former BSE staff, local agency personnel and the Garden City Community College!

Greg Fay, the designer of the KIBRSLE application, works under contract to the KBI. This spring we released version 1.8.0 of the application which allows agencies to edit at the user level, strips lesser included offenses for submission to the gateway and expands the master search capabilities. Greg is currently working on a version that will allow users to link multiple arrests to a single incident. An update will also be available to user's in late December which will include the KDOT changes that take effect on January 1, 2003.

Mike Robb, former BSE installer and trainer, works as an independent contractor to local agencies. He provides a wide range of services including installation and training on the application.

Scott McDaniel, one of the KIBRS Gateway developers, works under contract to the KBI. New versions of the Gateways are scheduled to be released twice a year. These versions include updates to the statute files as well as any needed changes to edit routines. Scott also assists local agencies that are interfacing to the KIBRS Gateway from their own local record management software. In addition, Scott works closely with Blake Courtney, former P4 programmer. Blake is responsible for maintenance of the KIBRS database and NIBRS submissions.

Rick Denton (Ford County Communications) and Rita Richmond (Kearny County Sheriff's Office) have been conducting hands-on training workshops in the use of the KIBRSLE application at the Garden City Community College. Linda Morgan, Garden City Community College, has worked with Rick and Rita to develop these







## *NEWSLETTER*

The KCJS NEWSLETTER is published by the Kansas Criminal  
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